

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 STATE 044641

11

ORIGIN EA-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: EA:SBERTONI:SB

APPROVED BY: EA-MR HELBLE

----- 097908

R 022316Z MAR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 044641

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 44641 ACTION BANGKOK INFO WELLINGTON
25 FEB

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 044641

WELLINGTON FOR HABIB

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, MARR, TH, US

SUBJECT: STATUS OF US RESIDUAL MILITARY PRESENCE IN
THAILAND

REF: BANGKOK 4077

1. WE ARE PROCEEDING AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE AND EXPECT TO
HAVE THE COMPLETED 175 AUTHORITY SOON.
2. AT THE SAME TIME WE APPRECIATE AND AGREE WITH THE
EMBASSY'S CONCERN THAT WE GIVE THE MFA NO GROUNDS FOR
ASSUMING, OR PUBLICLY STATING, THAT THE U.S. IS ATTEMPTING
TO DELAY NEGOTIATIONS. YOU ARE, THEREFORE, AUTHORIZED TO
COMMENT IN GENERAL ON THE SUBSTANTIVE DIFFICULTIES
CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 044641

RAISED BY THE THAI PRINCIPLES AS PRESENTED. YOU SHOULD
NOT RPT NOT NEGOTIATE SPECIFIC PRINCIPLES THEMSELVES OR

SPECULATE WHAT LANGUAGE CHANGES MIGHT BE NECESSARY TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF OUR DIFFICULTIES WITH PARTICULAR PRINCIPLES. YOUR RECOMMENDED COMMENTS HAVE, THEREFORE, BEEN REWRITTEN AS FOLLOWS:

PRINCIPLE 1 - UNDER PREVIOUS ARRANGEMENTS, A LARGE PROPORTION OF THE RESIDUAL PRESENCE WOULD HAVE BEEN COVERED BY DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY UNDER THE 1950 MILITARY ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT. WE NOTE THE RTG'S RELUCTANCE TO EXTEND DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY UNDER THE 1950 MAA TO OUR RESIDUAL MILITARY PRESENCE. WE WOULD HOPE THAT THE RTG WOULD TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE FACT THAT THE RESIDUAL U.S. PRESENCE CONTEMPLATED IS FAR SMALLER THAN HAS BEEN THE CASE FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS AND THAT IN ALMOST ALL COUNTRIES IN WHICH U.S. DEFENSE PERSONNEL ARE STATIONED, HOST GOVERNMENTS HAVE RECOGNIZED THAT U.S. JURISDICTION OVER THESE PERSONNEL IS APPROPRIATE IN CERTAIN KINDS OF CASES.

PRINCIPLE 2 - WE WOULD THINK THAT, GIVEN THE FACT THAT THE INSTALLATIONS WILL BE THAI INSTALLATIONS, THE LANGUAGE WOULD BE MORE ACCURATE IF IT REFLECTED THE JOINT DETERMINATION OF THE TWO COUNTRIES TO REFRAIN FROM THREAT TO ETC., IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER.

PRINCIPLE 3 - WE HAVE NO QUARREL IN PRINCIPLE WITH THE IDEA OF PROVIDING THE RTG WITH REPORTS ON OUR ACTIVITIES AT THE INSTALLATIONS AT WHICH U.S. FORCES WILL BE PRESENT, AND WOULD BE INTERESTED TO KNOW WHAT KINDS OF REPORTS THE THAI CONTEMPLATE. AS TO INFORMATION AND DATE, WE HAVE ALREADY AGREED THAT THIS WILL BE PROVIDED AND INDEED HAVE ALREADY BEGUN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE DULY DESIGNATED THAI AUTHORITIES ON THE SUBJECT.

PRINCIPLE 4 - THE LANGUAGE HERE CAN BE READ AS SUGGESTING THAT THERE WILL BE A STEADY PHASEDOWN OF U.S. PERSONNEL AS THAI PERSONNEL ARE TRAINED TO REPLACE THEM, UNTIL AT SOME POINT NO U.S. MILITARY PERSONNEL WILL REMAIN. AT AN INSTALLATION LIKE RAMASUN, HOWEVER, THAT IS NOT WHAT THE
CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 044641

U.S. IS PROPOSING. WE CONTEMPLATE A SCALING DOWN OF THE U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE AS THE THAI PERSONNEL ARE TRAINED, UNTIL A FINAL "COMBINED OPERATIONS" CONFIGURATION IS ATTAINED.

PRINCIPLE 5 - WE THINK THE TONE WOULD BE IMPROVED IF REFERENCE WERE MADE TO AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS, WHICH WOULD UNDERLINE THE COOPERATIVE, MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL NATURE OF THE RESIDUAL PRESENCE.

PRINCIPLE 6 - WE DO NOT THINK MEMBERS OF THE U.S. FORCES RESIDUAL PRESENCE IN THAILAND IN THE MUTUAL INTEREST OF THE SECURITY OF THE TWO COUNTRIES CAN PROPERLY BE TREATED AS IN THE SAME CATEGORY WITH "TECHNICAL EXPERTS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES". AS WE UNDERSTAND IT, ARRANGEMENTS COVERING TECHNICAL EXPERTS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES WOULD NOT BE SUITED TO THE RESIDUAL U.S. PRESENCE IN ANY CASE. SUCH ARRANGEMENTS PRESUMABLY WOULD OBLIGE THE RTG TO PROVIDE, FOR EXAMPLE, HOUSING ALLOWANCES. WE DOUBT THAT THE RTG HAS THIS IN MIND. ON THE OTHER HAND, REASONABLE DUTY-FREE IMPORT PRIVILEGES, TAX EXEMPTION AND THE LIKE ARE A NORMAL PRACTICE IN ALMOST ALL COUNTRIES WHERE U.S. MILITARY AND DEFENSE DEPARTMENT CIVILIAN PERSONNEL ARE PRESENT.

PRINCIPLE 7 - AGREEMENTS DEFINING THE TERMS OF THE RESIDUAL U.S. PRESENCE MIGHT CONTAIN PROVISIONS FOR PERIODIC REVIEW AND DENUNCIATION PROVISIONS. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THEY SHOULD AUTOMATICALLY EXPIRE AT THE END OF TWO YEARS. WE ALSO DO NOT UNDERSTAND THE MEANING OF THE PROVISIO IN THE LANGUAGE PROPOSED BY THE THAI THAT SUCH AGREEMENTS WOULD BE RENEWABLE "BY EITHER PARTY GIVING ADVANCE NOTICE". INGERSOLL UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, TROOP DEPLOYMENT, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE044641
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EA:SBERTONI:SB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760080-1095
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t197603103/aaaadnfx.tel
Line Count: 138
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 BANGKOK 4077
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 JUN 2004 by greenet>; APPROVED <27 SEP 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STATUS OF US RESIDUAL MILITARY PRESENCE IN THAILAND
TAGS: MILI, MARR, TH, US
To: CINCPAC
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006